

(b) if so the details thereof and when this scheme was chalked out; and

(c) by what time this development work is likely to commence and completed?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Development (Shri M. Arunachalam): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Delhi Development Authority has reported that a scheme for upgradation of slums and informal shelters was drawn up by them for the Bhule Bisre Kalakaras staying in the Jhuggi Jhonpri cluster known as Kathputli Colony. This scheme was drawn up in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Midwest who were to make a contribution of Rs. 40 lakhs and matching amount was to be provided by the Slum Wing themselves. When this scheme was drawn up the land use where this cluster is situated was residential/Primary School. However, according to Master Plan 2001 this site is now likely to be used for mass rapid transport system. Hence on site upgradation is not possible. This cluster is now being considered for shifting which depends upon availability of physical and financial resources and cooperation of the people living there.

[Translation]

Amendment to Food Adulteration Act, 1954

819. Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar: Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been received by the Government to amend the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) further action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Shrimati D. K. Thara Devi Siddhartha): (a) to (c) Government is seized of the representations received from State Governments/Consumer Association/Trade Associations to amend a few provisions of the prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954. The main proposals in the representations are:—

- (i) The definition of 'Food' should be more explicit.
- (ii) Consumers should be given the same powers as that of Food Inspectors.
- (iii) Sampling procedure for consumers be simplified.
- (iv) The Central Committee for Food Standards (CCFS) should give more representation to the Trade.
- (v) Time limit be specified for launching of cases in the Court of law.
- (vi) Panel provisions be categorised according to the gravity of offences.

[English]

Unauthorised Construction of Buildings in Karol Bagh, Delhi

820. Shri Rajuath Sonkar Shastri: Will the Minister of Urban Development be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government are drawn to the news-item under caption "Building in Karol Bagh demolished" appearing in the Hindustan Times dt. June, 4, 1991;

(b) if so, the details of remaining unauthorised constructions in Karol Bagh, Delhi identified as also in other areas of Delhi; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to demolish all unauthorised constructions?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Development (Shri M. Arunachalam) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In Karol Bagh, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi has booked 1203 cases of unauthorised construction upto June, 1991. The number of such cases in other parts of Delhi under its jurisdiction during the period are reported to be 7563.

Delhi Development Authority has stated that whenever authorised construction/encroachment is detected immediate action is taken by it under the law. During 1990-91 it removed 6304 unauthorised construction/encroachments and thus reclaimed 286.16 acres of its land.

The number of such cases detected by New Delhi Municipal Committee in its jurisdiction during 1991 are 129.

(c) Action against unauthorised construction/encroachment is a continuing process. As and when such activity is noticed appropriate action such as sealing, demolition, removal, etc. is taken under the Delhi Development Act, 1957, the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957, and the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911 (as applicable in the case of New Delhi Municipal Committee) by the concerned authorities.

Growth of Unauthorised Banquet Halls in Delhi

821. Shri M. V. Chandra Shekara Murthy :

Shri V. Sreenivasa Prasad :
Will the Minister of Urban Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is mushroom growth of unauthorised Banquet halls in Delhi particularly in Preet Vihar ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in the regard ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Development (Shri M. Arunachalam) : (a) to (c) There are 4 Banquet halls in Preet Vihar. 25 Banquet Halls reported to be run without any valid licence. The owners of 16 Banquet Halls have already been prosecuted and action against the remaining 9 has since been initiated.

Inclusion of Washermen Community in SC List

822. Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde : Will the Minister of Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of strong demand by the Washermen in some States to include their community in the list of Scheduled Castes ;

(b) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has recommended for inclusion of the community in the list of Scheduled Castes ;

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of Welfare (Shri Sitaram Kesri) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The recommendations are examined in consultation with the Registrar General of India before a decision is taken.

Any amendment in the existing Scheduled Castes lists can be made only through an Act of Parliament as laid down in Article 341(2) of the Constitution.

Promotion of Tribal Languages

823. Shri Bhagey Gobardhan :
Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have directed the State Governments to provide adequate facilities for instruction in the mother-tongue at the primary stage of education to children belonging to linguistic minority groups, as contemplated under Article 350-A of the Constitution of India ;